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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Akira OKADA, et al.

Serial No.: Unassigned

Group:

Filed: Concurrently

Examiner:

FOR: DOPE FOR POLYURETHANE OR AROMATIC POLYAMIDE ARTICLE, AND USE OF HYDROTALCITE COMPOUND PARTICLES THEREIN

Date: March 19, 2002

The Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, please amend the herewith filed application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel claims 15, 24 and 29 in their entirety and without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

- --33. (New) A polyurethane fiber according to claim 11 produced from a dope comprising
 - (A) hydrotalcite compound particles having
 - (1) an average secondary particle diameter of 0.60 to 3 $\,$ μm as measured by a laser beam diffraction scattering

method,

- (2) a specific surface area of 0.5 to $10~\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ as measured by a BET method, and
- (3) a platy crystal particle shape,
- (B) an organic polar solvent, and
- (C) a polyurethane,

by a wet or dry method.

- 34. (New) An aromatic polyamide film or fiber according to claim 20, produced from a dope comprising,
 - (A) hydrotalcite compound particles having
 - (1) an average secondary particle diameter of 0.60 to 3 $\,$ μm as measured by a laser beam diffraction scattering method,
 - (2) a specific surface area of 0.5 to $10 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ as measured by a BET method, and
 - (3) a platy crystal particle shape,
 - (B) an organic polar solvent, and
 - (C) an aromatic polyamide,

by a wet or dry method.

- 35. (New) Hydrotalcite compound particles according to claim 3, wherein the surface-treating agent is at least one kind selected from the group consisting of higher fatty acids, anionic surfactants, phosphoric acid esters and coupling agents.
- 36. (New) Hydrotalcite compound particles according to claim 25, wherein the surface-treating agent is at least one kind selected from the group consisting of higher fatty acids, anionic

surfactants, phosphoric acid esters and coupling agents. --

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendment prior to examination of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following comments.

Claims 1-32 are currently pending in the subject application. Claims 15, 24 and 29 have been cancelled and new claims 33-36 have been added. Accordingly, claims 1-14, 16-23, 25-28 and 30-36 are now pending in this application.

Claims 15 and 24 have been cancelled to eliminate improper multiple dependencies and new claims 33 and 34 correspond to claims 15 and 24, respectively, rewritten in single dependent form.

Claim 29 has been cancelled to eliminate the multiple dependent claim fee and new claims 35 and 36 correspond to claim 29 rewritten in single dependent form.

No new matter has been added and applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfolly submitted

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